

Frank G. Pollard
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Frank G. Pollard, P.I.
City of Detroit Metro Water Department
735 Randolph Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Mr. Pollard:

I investigated your complaint of cyanide slug received at the Detroit City Sewage Treatment plant on July 3, 1975, and have confirmed your suspicions that it came from Chem-Mat Services". Mellon Road Plant. Mr. Hartman was out of the City for a week or so and Michigan Chrome and Chemical called Chem-Mat to pick up a load of industrial waste and did not tell them that it was cyanide. Chem-Mat brought it to the Allen Road facility and determined that it was cyanide. The truck driver and facility manager decided that it should best be disposed of at Mellon Road. It was discharged at that location and then an attempt was made, according to Mr. Hartman, to treat the cyanide with bleach to try to destroy it.

Mr. Hartman indicated to me that they were totally to blame, that he had taken disciplinary action against the people that had disposed of the waste in that manner and assured me that it would not happen again.

I would suggest that at this time the sever connection at that facility be permanently plugged as a minimum. Additional action may be initiated by the City of Detroit. We were not able to collect any evidence as to the source or the quantity of waste disposed of at the sewer, so any evidence that you have that such a discharge did take place and the source of that discharge might be of use in any legal action we may initiate.

If you receive any further incidents such as this, please contact us immediately, so we can arrange to have samples and evidence taken and make an attempt to stop this type of discharge.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at 317-373-1947.

Sincerely,

BUREAU OF WATER MANAGEMENT

John M. Shaver
Water Quality Supervisor
Oil and Hazardous Materials
Control Section

JHS:ew
cc: John Bohunsky ✓
Natalie Crow
Chem-Mat Services
Dave Dennis
File

DEPT OF NAT'L ENVIRON. PROTECTION
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SERIALIZED FILED
G.R.



VC: UEP